

funding (adjusted for bedroom size); (b) the reasonable rent (as defined under 24 CFR 983.303); (c) up to 110 percent of the applicable FMR (or applicable Exception Rent Payment Standard), minus any utility allowance; or (d) the rent requested by the owner.

**Adjustment of Contract Rents. Provisions affected:** Section 8(o)(13)(I) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(13)(I)); 24 CFR 983.301 and 983.302. **Alternative Requirements:** Contract rents will be adjusted annually by HUD's Operating Cost Adjustment Factor (OCAF) at each anniversary of the HAP contract, subject to the availability of appropriations for each year of the contract term. The rent to owner may at no time exceed the reasonable rent charged for comparable unassisted units in private market, as determined by the Contract Administrator in accordance 24 CFR 983.303. However, the rent to owner shall not be reduced below the initial rent to owner for dwelling units under the initial HAP contract except in limited circumstances.

#### B. Changes to PBRA Requirements for Mod Rehab Conversions

**Length of PBRA Contract Term. Provision affected:** Section 8(d)(2)(A) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(d)(2)(A)). **Alternative Requirements:** Covered projects shall have an initial HAP term of 20 years.

**Initial Contract Rent Setting. Provisions affected:** Sections 8(c)(1), 8(c)(5) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(c)(1) and (c)(5)). **Alternative Requirements:** At the time that assistance will be converted, initial contract rents will be established based on the funding for which a project is currently eligible, including pro-rated Operating Subsidy eligibility, the portion of the PHA's Capital Fund Formula Grant attributable to the project, and tenant rents. Initial contract rents will be capped at the lesser of (a) current funding; or (b) 120 percent of the Section 8 FMR, adjusted by the number of bedrooms, and after subtracting any applicable utility allowance. However, when current funding exceeds 120 percent of the FMR but where the PHA believes that such rents are below the comparable market rent, the PHA may request an exception under which the project may receive rents in excess of 120 percent of the FMR but not in excess of the lower of comparable market rents or 150 percent of FMR. HUD will grant such a request only when HUD determines that a Rent Comparability Study (RCS), which the PHA must procure and pay for, establishes that current rents are below comparable market rents. Any such determination will be made by HUD in its sole and absolute discretion. Where contract rents are at or below 120 percent of the FMR, no RCS is required.

**Adjustment of Contract Rents. Provision affected:** Section 8(c)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(c)(2)). **Alternative Requirements:** Contract rents will be adjusted annually by HUD's OCAF at each anniversary of the HAP contract, subject to the availability of appropriations for each year of the contract term.

**Choice-Mobility. Provision affected:** 24 CFR 985.3(h). **Alternative Requirements:** HUD's goal is to have 100 percent of residents in the Demonstration offered a Choice-Mobility option within a reasonable time after conversion. However, as HUD recognizes that not all PHAs will have vouchers sufficient to support this effort, HUD will provide ranking factor points where a voucher agency has committed to provide vouchers to the covered PBRA project of a PHA without a voucher program. Additionally, voucher agencies that make such a commitment will receive:

- Priority points for new HCV FSS coordinator positions in an upcoming FSS competition and
- The bonus points provided under the Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) for deconcentration.

#### C. Changes to PBV Requirements for Mod Rehab Conversions (Noncompetitive)

**Portfolio Limit on PBVs. Provision affected:** Section 8(o)(13)(B) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(B)); 24 CFR 983.6. **Alternative Requirements:** None. The statutory requirement does not apply, so HUD waives the corresponding regulation.

**Cap on PBV Units per Project and Supportive Services Requirement. Provisions affected:** Section 8(o)(13)(D) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(13)(D)); 24 CFR 983.56, 983.257(c), and 983.261(a) and (d). **Alternative Requirements:** The 25 percent limitation on the number of units that may receive PBV assistance in a project without the provision of supportive services is increased to 50 percent. An owner may still project-base 100 percent of the units provided at least 50 percent of the units at the project qualify for the exceptions for elderly, disabled, scattered sites, or families receiving supportive services, or are within single-family buildings.

Households living in units subject to a proposed RAD conversion must be given the option to receive supportive services. If supportive services are declined by the household, the unit shall remain under the HAP contract, the household shall not be terminated from the PBV program, and the decision to decline an offer to receive supportive services shall not represent a ground for lease termination. Once the initial household residing in the excepted unit under RAD vacates such unit, all PBV program requirements related to the required receipt of supportive services shall apply.

**Site Selection. Provisions affected:** Section 8(o)(13)(C)(ii) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(13)(C)); 24 CFR 983.57(b)(1) and (c). **Alternative Requirements:** None. The provisions are waived. However, standards in 24 CFR 983.57 will apply to all off-site replacement projects and transfers of assistance. Further, HUD reserves the right to assess and consider as part of the selection process the impact of the proposed RAD conversion on deconcentration of poverty in properties where the RAD conversion would result in an increase in the number of units receiving project-based rental assistance.

**Selection Procedures. Provision affected:** 24 CFR 983.51. **Alternative Requirements:**

Selections shall be made in accordance with program requirements detailed in the Program Notice.

### III. Rent Supplement and Rental Assistance Payment Project Conversions

**Portfolio Limit on PBVs. Provision affected:** Section 8(o)(13)(B) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(B)); 24 CFR 983.6. **Alternative Requirements:** None. The statutory requirement does not apply, so HUD waives the corresponding regulation.

**Cap on PBV Units per Project and Supportive Services Requirement. Provisions affected:** Section 8(o)(13)(D) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(13)(D)); 24 CFR 983.56, 983.257(c), and 983.261(a) and (d). **Alternative Requirements:** The 25 percent limitation on the number of units that may receive PBV assistance in a project without the provision of supportive services is increased to 50 percent. Households living in units subject to a proposed RAD conversion must be given the option to receive supportive services. Once the initial household residing in the excepted unit under RAD vacates such unit, all PBV program requirements related to the required receipt of supportive services shall apply.

**Site Selection. Provisions affected:** Section 8(o)(13)(C)(ii) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(13)(C)); 24 CFR 983.57(b)(1) and (c). **Alternative Requirements:** None. The provisions are waived. However, standards in 24 CFR 983.57 will apply to all off-site replacement projects and transfers of assistance. Further, HUD reserves the right to assess and consider as part of the selection process the impact of the proposed RAD conversion on deconcentration of poverty in properties where the RAD conversion would result in an increase in the number of units receiving project-based rental assistance.

**Selection Procedures. Provision affected:** 24 CFR 983.51. **Alternative Requirements:** Selections shall be made in accordance with program requirements detailed in the Program Notice.

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BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Secretary is announcing that the Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform (the Commission) will hold a public Webinar meeting on August 13, 2012. The Commission has gathered valuable information to begin work on various subcommittees to explore the definitions and foundation of the trust

relationship, explore other trust models, review reports and various documents and identify recommendations from previous studies, and consider the nature and scope of necessary audits of the Department's trust administration systems. The Secretarial Commission's charter requires the Commission to provide well-reasoned and factually based recommendations for potential improvements to the existing management and administration of the trust administration system. The Commission is committed to early public engagement and welcomes your participation in these important meetings.

**DATES:** The Commission's Webinar meeting will begin at 2 p.m. and end at 4 p.m. Eastern Time on August 13, 2012. Attendance is open to the public, but limited space is available. Members of the public who wish to attend must RSVP by August 10, 2012, by registering at <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/876785297>. Instructions for joining the Webinar will be emailed after registration occurs.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The Designated Federal Official, Lizzie Marsters, Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW., Room 6119, Washington, DC 20240; or email to [Lizzie\\_Marsters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lizzie_Marsters@ios.doi.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As part of President Obama's commitment to fulfilling this nation's trust responsibilities to Native Americans, the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) appointed five members to serve on the Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform, established under Secretarial Order No. 3292, dated December 8, 2009. The Commission will play a key role in the Department's ongoing efforts to empower Indian nations and strengthen nation-to-nation relationships.

The Commission will complete a comprehensive evaluation of the Department's management and administration of the trust assets within a two-year period and offer recommendations to the Secretary on how to improve in the future. The Commission will:

- (1) Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the Department's management and administration of the trust administration system;
- (2) Review the Department's provision of services to trust beneficiaries;
- (3) Review input from the public, interested parties, and trust beneficiaries, which should involve conducting a number of regional listening sessions;

(4) Consider the nature and scope of necessary audits of the Department's trust administration system;

(5) Recommend options to the Secretary for improving the Department's management and administration of the trust administration system based on information obtained from the Commission's activities, including whether any legislative or regulatory changes are necessary to permanently implement any suggested improvements; and

(6) Consider the provisions of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 providing for the termination of the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, and make recommendations to the Secretary regarding termination.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- Trust Commission Operations:
  - Review, discussion, and approval of June 2012 meeting minutes;
  - Updates on action items from June 2012 meeting;
  - Report on Commission outreach since June;
- Discussion of preliminary, draft Commission recommendations;
- Discussion of Commission Subcommittee progress and products;
- Review of and discussion of September meeting agenda topics and related outreach activities;
- Review action items of resulting from Webinar call; and
- Public comments.

Written comments may be sent to the Designated Federal Official listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above. To review all related material on the Commission's work, please refer to <http://www.doi.gov/cobell/commission/index.cfm>. All meetings are open to the public.

Dated: July 19, 2012.

**David J. Hayes,**  
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012-18248 Filed 7-25-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-W7-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

[GX12GB009PAMR00]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submitted for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of an extension of an Information Collection (1028-0089), Mineral Resources Program's (MRP) Mineral Resource External Research Program (MRERP).

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) an information collection request (ICR) for renewal of the currently approved paperwork requirements for the Mineral Resources Program's (MRP) Mineral Resource External Research Program (MRERP). This notice provides the public and other Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of these project narrative and report requirements. This collection is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2012.

**DATES:** You must submit comments on or before August 27, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit comments on this information collection directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of Interior via email [[OIRA\\_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov)]; or fax (202) 395-5806; and identify your submission as 1028-0089.

Please also submit a copy of your comments to the USGS Information Collection Clearance Officer, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mail Stop 807, Reston, VA 20192 (mail); 703-648-7199 (fax); or [smbaloch@usgs.gov](mailto:smbaloch@usgs.gov) (email); and reference Information Collection 1028-0089 in the subject line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request additional information about this ICR, contact Jeff L. Doebrich by mail at U.S. Geological Survey, 913 National Center, Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20192 or by telephone at 703-648-6103.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Mineral Resource External Research Program (MRERP).

*OMB Control Number:* 1028-0089.

*Form Number:* None.

*Abstract:* Through the MRERP, the MRP of the USGS offers an annual competitive grant and/or cooperative agreement opportunity to universities, State agencies, Tribal governments or organizations, and industry or other private sector organizations. Applicants must have the ability to conduct research in topics related to nonfuel mineral resources and that meet the goals of the MRP. The MRERP will consider all research-based proposals that address one of the long-term goals of the Mineral Resources Program, as